



Regional Service Council Minutes Region 5

Meeting Date: May 27, 2011

Meeting Location: Department of Child Services
Tippecanoe County Office
250 Main St., Ste 301
Lafayette, IN

Council Members Present: Gilbert Smith, Regional Manager; Angela Smith Grossman, Director Tippecanoe County DCS; Barbara Bedrick, Director White County DCS; Judge Rush, Tippecanoe County; Judge Rader, Warren County; Coleen Hamrick, Tippecanoe County CASA; Cathy Booe, FCM Supervisor Fountain County, Brandy Holt, Fountain/Warren County FCM; Jennifer Johnson, Clinton County FCM; Stacey Morgan, FCM Supervisor Clinton County; and Elva James, Director Benton County DCS.

Council Members Absent: Judge Henderson, Fountain County.

Others In Attendance: Joan Caylor-Luna, Region 5 Regional Finance Manager; dianna Huddleston and Tom Gilliam, Wabash Valley Alliance; Hong Nguyen, Consultant; and Pam Biggs Reed, Bauer Family Resource Center (formerly Community and Family Resource Center).

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at: 7:30 am

1. Minutes from February 25, 2011 were submitted. Judge Rader made a motion to approve the minutes. Elva James seconded the motion. The motion passed.
2. Gil introduced the two newest members of the Council, Jennifer Johnson, Clinton County FCM and Brandy Holt, Fountain/Warren County FCM. They are working on getting a foster parent and a prosecutor for membership on the council.
3. Community Partners Report – Tom Gilliam gave the report of referrals and flex funding spent as follows:
 - a. Benton County – 92 referrals, \$13,897.04 flex funds spent (\$151 per family)

- b. Carroll County – 204 referrals, \$28,836.14 flex funds spent (\$141 per family)
- c. Clinton County – 245 referrals, \$14,622.50 flex funds spent (\$59 per family)
- d. Fountain County – 323 referrals, \$37,720.97 flex funds spent (\$116 per family)
- e. Tippecanoe County – 1455 referrals, \$149,489.34 flex funds spent (\$102 per family) **(from Feb)**
- f. Warren County – 105 referrals, \$9,018.87 flex funds spent (\$85 per family)
- g. White County – 377 referrals, \$23,374.00 flex funds spent (\$62 per family)

Tom reported that not all families receive flex funding and these numbers are averages. He gave a report through the end of April. A couple of counties will be short but there will be money to roll over to cover the shortages.

Joan Caylor asked him how they anticipate FY 2012 issues. Tom stated their billing department has been in contact with DCS to find out how soon billings must be submitted to insure they are paid with 2011 funds.

Clinton County is on a waiting list for referrals. They are waiting for WVA staff to be hired. Their referrals are backed up but next year they will spend more. Judge Rush asked for a summary report and Tom stated he would do that for the Council.

We are looking at some cuts in funding for Community Partners for the next two years but we have another option. CPCS is for direct services. 40% can be used for other prevention services (foster parent events, food, t-shirts, supplies, etc.). A decision needs to be made soon as to how that money will be spent so that Bauer and Wabash Valley Alliance may plan accordingly. Tippecanoe County would like their entire amount (\$127,000) to go to Community Partners to be targeted for preventative services. Coleen Hamrick questioned how foster parent support is preventative. Foster parent training is currently paid with FAKT dollars which ends in July. Angela stated that the counties know the needs of the families and there is more flexibility in spending by placing it with Community Partners than by leaving a lump sum that may not be utilized. Community Partners money is served directly to the families. Angela stated there is also some flexibility if she should change her mind later. Angela made a motion that the Regional Service Council allow local office directors to work in collaboration with CP. Elva James seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. Financial Report, Joan Caylor-Luna – Joan distributed each county's budget figures. The Region is at 83% and the target is 80%.

Judge Rush has concerns because the numbers were off on the last report and asked if Joan is comfortable with them. Joan stated that she is comfortable, and that the numbers will be higher in the next report. There have been some system problems with tracking but those are being worked out. There have been no major problems. We are right on target.

5. RFP– At the last meeting there were services that had not been met. Hong stated there was a delay in getting the award letters out to service providers and not all of them have received their contracts. The state is working to get them out. It is her understanding that RFP will be opened up to ASL (drug testing) and Tippecanoe County Government. Judge Rader suggested voting by email because it needs to be done by July 1st. Judge Rader made a motion to allow an email vote to open the RFP to ASL and Tippecanoe County Government. Judge Rush seconded the motion. The motion passed. There will be a waiver so that if a service provider doesn't receive their contract services will continue. ASL has a current contract but they missed the deadline. They will be able to continue to bill for current clients. Hong stated that some proposals had to be returned because they had glitches in them. She has told those who missed the deadline to get their proposals ready so they are prepared when it is opened up.
6. Biennial Plan, Angela Smith Grossman – There was a meeting a couple of weeks ago. There will be a public meeting July 14th at 8:30 am in the Tippecanoe Room in the Tippecanoe County Office Building. Public notice information will be going to the local office directors. The survey will be out shortly. She has looked at the notes from the previous year's meeting and they are very similar. The next committee meeting will be August 12th. Gil encouraged anyone who is able to attend the public meeting to do so. We really need to understand the barriers to providing services and providers are encouraged to attend and to speak.
7. Practice Indicator Reports – We are staying fairly consistent. The repeat maltreatment data entry issues are being resolved so that the indicator is more accurate. There are some glitches with how the hotline handles reports, causing some to be counted twice and this is being fixed. There is now a detailed report that allows us to see what is happening.
8. Provider Request, Barb Bedrick – Barb requested permission to use Dr. Elizabeth Akey to complete a psychological evaluation on a ward. The current foster parents have had this child (11 years old) for 5 years and will not adopt him with the current subsidies and without some guarantees to limit their liability if he has emotional problems in the future. There has been one failed placement and one failed preplacement, partially due to the foster mother exaggerating some of his problems. Barb would particularly like Dr. Akey to do this assessment because she knows the child and the

foster parents and is familiar with the school system. Dr. Akey is the former director of Wabash Valley Outpatient Clinic in Monticello, is currently on staff at Purdue University and has a small private practice. Dr. Akey is not contracted to work with the state and does not wish to be due to time constraints. She would bill Medicaid for services that Medicaid will pay for and additional charges would be billed to us. The approximate non Medicaid cost would be \$800. This would include comprehensive records review, direct observation of the child in school, consultation with the teachers and school counselors and at least two standardized measures of adaptive functioning. This would be a one time expense. Barb made a motion to approve this. Judge Rader seconded it. The motion passed.

9. Permanency Roundtables – These lasted three days. Casey Family Services facilitated. Nine cases were reviewed. It was a great experience. Staff walked out with ideas to try to knock down barriers to help these kids. Angela said it was a good experience with good ideas and action plans and it was an interesting exchange. She is hopeful that it will continue. It helped to get reenergized about helping these (mostly older) kids. She felt this was very beneficial.

Jim Shively will do a monthly report on the outcomes of these cases. He will figure out which action steps were and weren't effective.

10. Dismissal of the courts.

11. Pam Biggs Reed – Homebuilders has kicked off region wide. They are in the test phase and have hit some bumps since the contract began. They are getting feedback that is conflicting. They are hoping to have it all resolved by July 1st. There is some discussion around whether Homebuilders can be the supervisor of visitation. The model is very good but there are a couple of things in the model that don't line up with common practice. Hong stated that as part of the model, when Homebuilders is getting ready to come out of a family the worker should start transition services. The current therapist should help transition to the new therapist.

Presentation:

Lifeline – Deb Johnson and Rachel Bower

Next Meeting Date, Time and Location: The meeting scheduled for July 29, 2011 has been canceled. The next meeting will be at 7:30 am September 30, 2011, at the Department of Child Services office in Tippecanoe County, 250 Main Street, Third Floor.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:45 am.